

REMARKS

Applicant has amended the claims 1 and 3, canceled the claims 2 and 4 without prejudice and added new claims 5 and 6 and further amended the abstract. Applicant respectfully submits that these amendments to the claims and the abstract are supported by the application as originally filed and do not contain any new matter. Accordingly, the Office Action will be discussed in terms of the claims and abstract as amended.

The Examiner has objected to the abstract. Applicant has amended the abstract and respectfully submits that it is not now objectionable.

The Examiner has rejected the claims 2 and 4 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Applicant has amended the language in claims 2 and 4, combined the limitations as amended of the claims 2 and 4 respectively into the claims 1 and 3. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims 1 and 3 comply with the requirements of 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

The Examiner has rejected the claims 1 and 3 under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC 103 as being obvious over Sewell et al., Hiromi or Fleischer stating that any one of Sewell et al., Hiromi or Fleischer discloses an air cleaning process and apparatus with a negative ion generator, an air circulator and an ozone generator producing an ozone concentration of 0.02 to 0.05 ppm in a room and while none particularly or explicitly mention air clarifying is being performed, it is the Examiner's opinion that it would be inherent and obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that air cleaning is synonymous with air clarifying and air clarifying is being accomplished.

In reply to this rejection, Applicant has carefully reviewed Sewell et al. and respectfully submits that Sewell et al. teaches an ozone concentration and a distance of 20 cm from an outlet is 0.04 ppm or less (see column 3, lines 7-10). Applicant respectfully submits that since this ozone concentration is measured at 20 cm, there is no description in Sewell et al. that the average concentration of the ozone being discharged and scattered in the room in an indoor atmosphere is within the range of 0.02 to 0.05 ppm. In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that nowhere in Sewell et al. does it disclose a negative ion generator which would produce an average concentration value of negative ions in the vicinity of the blow out port at 200,000 to 1,000,000 pieces/cc.

Applicant has further carefully reviewed Hiromi and respectfully submits that Hiromi merely discloses that the ozone concentration at a clear air outlet of the apparatus is 0.06 ppm or less (see column 2, lines 43-47) and particularly Figure 6 shows 0.043 ppm at a temperature of 0°C. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Hiromi does not disclose the average concentration value of the ozone that is discharged and stirred in the room and particularly does not disclose that this average concentration would be 0.02 to 0.05 ppm. Still further, Applicant respectfully submits that Hiromi does not disclose a negative ion generator or the particular concentration claimed by Applicant.

Finally, Applicant has carefully reviewed Fleischer and respectfully submits that Fleischer does not disclose the concentration of the ozone in any particular concrete manner. Still further, Applicant respectfully submits that Fleischer does not disclose anything about a negative ion generator or the concentration of the negative ions at the blow out port.

In view of the above, therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that not only does Sewell et al., Hiromi or Fleischer not disclose all of the elements of Applicant's invention as claimed by the claims 1 and 3 but also the claims 1 and 3 would not be obvious thereover.

The Examiner has also rejected the claims 1 and 3 under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC 103 as being obvious over Shoji stating that Shoji discloses an air cleaning process and apparatus with a negative ion generator, an air circulator and an ozone generator producing an ozone concentration of 0.02 to 0.05 ppm in a room and while Shoji may not explicitly mention that air clarifying is performed, it would be obvious and inherent in Shoji that air clarifying is performed.

In reply to this rejection, Applicant has carefully reviewed Shoji and respectfully submits that in Shoji while it may disclose an air for containing ions and ozone to clean the air, Applicant respectfully submits that nowhere therein does it particularly disclose any range for the negative ions or the ozone, except at column 10, lines 51-54 wherein it discloses that at a flow rate of 50 ml/s at a temperature of 20° and a humidity of 60% the ozone concentration is 0.00445 ppm. However, Applicant respectfully submits that nowhere even at this part of column 10 does it disclose the ozone concentration being discharged and scattered in a room in an indoor atmosphere and does not particularly disclose where the ozone concentration was measured. Finally, Applicant respectfully submits that Shoji does not disclose a particular negative ion generator which generates negative ions in the range of Applicant's invention.

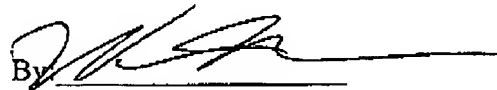
In view of the above, therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims 1 and 3 as amended are not anticipated by nor obvious over Shoji.

In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that none of the art cited by the Examiner discloses the particular control means now claimed by Applicant's new claims 5 and 6 which are respectively dependent upon the claims 1 and 3. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the new claims 5 and 6 are not anticipated by nor obvious over any of the art cited by the Examiner.

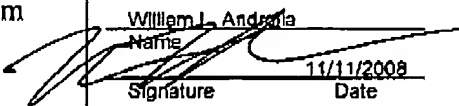
In view of the above, therefore, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered, favorably considered and the case passed to issue.

Please charge any additional costs incurred by or in order to implement this Amendment or required by any requests for extensions of time to QUINN EMANUEL DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 50-4367.

Respectfully submitted,

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